State/UT		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96 (As on 16.12.1995)
		Paddy	Paddy	Paddy	Paddy
5. *Not Contributing to* Gujarat J. & K. Tamil Nadu	*Central Pool*	1812	866	428	8
Total (B)		1812	866	428	8
Total (A+B)		5153	6890	8595	5454

NEG.: Below 500 tonnes.

Changes in Exim Policy

1317. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the changes introduced recently in the Exim Policy of the country; and

(b) how these are expected to reduce imports and increase exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Review of the Export Import Policy is an on-going process and changes in it are made as and when considered necessary. These changes are made through Notifications and Public Notices, copies of which are availahje in the Parliament Library.

By widening the scope of the Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme which now enables domestic suppliers to source thier components at zero duty for manufacturing their Capital Goods for supply to zero duty EPCG Licence holders, dependence on import has been reduced. Duty Exemption Scheme has also been simplified and licence holders can source their inputs from the domestic suppliers by way of back to back letter of credit through the banking channel. Such changes are expected to reduce imports and also increase exports.

Proposal to increase the maximum limit of income for considering below Poverty Line

1318. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 796 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th August, 1995 and state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the maximum limit of the income of a person or a family for considering it below the poverty line in view of the steep-increase in the prices of all the essential commodities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA): (a) and (b). The poverty lines are revised from time to time to take into account the price rise as reflected in the total private consumption expenditure estimated by the Central Statistical Organisation in its National Accounts Statistics. The latest estimates of poverty